REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-10 are pending in this application.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Chu (U.S. Patent No. 5,920,899. Claims 2 and 4-10 were allowed.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of Claims 2 and 4-10.

The outstanding rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 3 recites in part:

> a plurality of block control circuits provided corresponding to said respective processing blocks, said block control circuits controlling corresponding processing blocks by a clock synchronization respectively and transferring a handshaking control signal with other block control circuits, thereby controlling a data transfer between said processing blocks by self-synchronization type handshaking,
> wherein said data processing system further includes an arbitration circuit for interfacing with an external system,
> said arbitration circuit transferring a system control signal synchronous with a clock with said external system, thereby creating said handshaking control signal based on said system control signal.

Thus, in the invention recited in Claim 3, an inner system is controlled by creating a handshaking control signal based on a system control signal transferred from an external system. In other words, Claim 3 recites *semi*-self-synchronization control by handshaking signals.
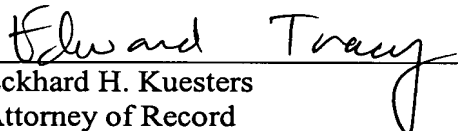
In contrast, Chu discloses a *complete* self-synchronization control system where an inner data transfer is controlled only by handshaking signals. In fact, the outstanding Office Action does not specify what signals described by Chu are asserted to be "a system control signal synchronous with a clock" and a "handshaking control signal based on said system

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control signal" as recited in Claim 3.[1] As the structure of the circuit described by <u>Chu</u> is very

different from the invention recited in Claim 3, it is respectfully submitted that <u>Chu</u> does not

teach "an arbitration circuit" as defined in Claim 3. Consequently, as <u>Chu</u> does not teach

each and every element of Claim 3, Claim 3 is not anticipated by <u>Chu</u> and is patentable

thereover.

Accordingly, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present

application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action

to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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[1]See the outstanding Office Action, page 3, lines 1-3.